

SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC
3050 K ST. N.W., SUITE 101
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108
TELEPHONE: 202-338-1325
FAX: 202-295-3854



SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.
SIDNEY.STRICKLAND@STRICKLANDPLLC.COM

218346

December 26, 2006

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

DEC 27 2006

Part of
Public Record

Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 424X)—BNSF Railway Company (BNSF)
Abandonment—in Dawson and McCone Counties, MT**

Dear Secretary Williams:

On October 18, 2004, BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F—Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 43.41-mile line of railroad extending between milepost 7.00 near Glendive and milepost 50.41 in Circle, in Dawson and McCone Counties, MT (the "Line"). The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 59330, 59339, 59315, and 59215.

By decision served on November 5, 2004, the STB granted exemption authority to abandon effective December 7, 2004. Within the same decision, the STB stated the abandonment was to be consummated as of November 5, 2005.

On May 31, 2006, the STB granted BNSF's request for an extension of time to file a notice of consummation until June 1, 2007.

By letter dated November 9, 2006, BNSF requested authority from the Board to discontinue only, and not abandon, the subject Line.

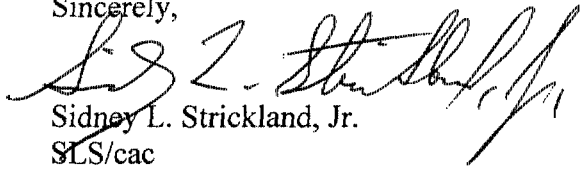
This letter is to make it clear to the Board that BNSF has consummated the discontinuance of operations over the subject Line only and not abandonment of the subject Line.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 338-1325.

Sincerely,



Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
SLS/cac

cc: Montana Department of Transportation
Montana Public Service Commission
Jake Deboever
John Sims